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Senate protects schools, students from penalties over missing MEAP tests

Lansing – The Senate today approved Senate Bill 787, which protects students and schools from being penalized if their Michigan Educational Assessment Program answer sheets are lost by the Michigan Department of Education or a state contractor, Sen. Alan Cropsey (R-DeWitt) announced.

“My bill protects school districts like Beal City from errors they aren’t responsible for,” Cropsey said. “Students should never have this issue follow them in their educational career.”

Nine school districts in Michigan have had some MEAP answer sheets lost, leaving educators and parents to worry the state could sanction them for not having test results for all students. About 3,400 answer sheets are missing statewide. Of those, a couple of dozen were from Beal City schools.

Under SB 787, schools could not be unfairly designated as unaccredited or as not maintaining federal adequate yearly progress as required by the No Child Left Behind Act because of missing results.

The bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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